METRO / A23
DPWH Usec Ramon Aquino dies in hospital

NEWS / A4
More China navy/fishing ships to patrol Spratlys

WORLD / A26
France, Germany, UN hit Pope over condoms

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
Friday, March 20, 2009 • Vol. 24 / No. 102 • website: www.inquirer.net

AFP troops pulled back; release seen

By Jocelyn R. Uy

THE MILITARY YESTERDAY AGREED to pull back troops encircling Abu Sayyaf kidnappers on Jolo island after they promised to release one of three International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) workers held hostage for over two months.

"The safety of the ICRC workers remains the paramount concern. And if it means this we must adjust our deploy-

AFP TROOPS/A11

'Why does the government want us to die?'

By Arlyn dela Cruz

ANGRY, EXHAUSTED AND FRUSTRATED, the three Red Cross workers held hostage for two months by Abu Sayyaf kidnappers poured their hearts out in a phone conversation yesterday with Sen. Richard Gordon.

First allowed to speak at 2:20 p.m. by gang leader Albader Parad was Filipino Mary Jean Lacaba, who sounded afraid in the forested Indanan hideout on Jolo island, which was encircled by troops a

WHY DOES/A17



MANCAO: In July 1, 2001, I followed Lacson's instruction to go to the US.

Mancao affidavit: 'Tapusin muna namin si Delta, sir'

(Editor's note: This is the latest sworn statement executed by former Senior Supt. Cezar Mancao II in connection with the Dacer-Corbito twin slayings. The Inquirer obtained a copy from a government official who asked not to be identified because he said he was not authorized to release the document.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA)

AFFIDAVIT

I, CEZAR OCHOCO MANCAO II, of legal age, married, Filipino and presently under the custody of US Federal Marshals at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, United States of America, after being duly sworn to in accordance with the law, hereby depose and state, to wit:

1. I am the same CEZAR OCHOCO MANCAO II who is one of the several accused in Criminal Case No. 01-191969 pending before Branch 18 of the Regional Trial Court of Manila, Metro Manila, Philippines, entitled "PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES versus MICHAEL RAY AQUINO, et al.", or more popularly known as the DACER-CORBITO DOUBLE MURDER CASE.

2. I am executing this Affidavit to narrate, out of my own personal knowledge, among others, the relevant incidents that transpired in connection with the abduction and death of SALVADOR "BUBBY" DACER.

MANCAO/A20

Erap, Ping tied to slays

Mancao says he was told to cover up crime

By Volt Contreras

"TAPUSIN MUNA NAmin si Delta, sir, kasi nainis na si Bigote sa kaniya (We will finish off Delta first, sir, because Bigote is already irked with him)."

This curt, coded remark, supposedly spoken inside a car en route to a Japanese restaurant in October 2000 appears to link the fates of three men in a murder mystery that has festered for eight years.

"Delta" referred to publicist Salvador "Bubby" Dacer whose burned remains and those of his driver Emmanuel Corbito would be found months later.

"Sir" referred to then Chief Supt. Panfilo Lacson, and "Bigote" (Filipino for mustached) referred to then President Joseph Estrada.

The person saying "sir" was then Senior Supt. Michael Ray Aquino.

Recounting the exchange is former Senior Supt. Cezar Mancao II who today claims that Lacson gave him direct orders immediately after the Dacer-Corbito murders to cover up the grisly deed.

In an affidavit executed on Feb. 14 in the United States, Mancao recalled what he said he knew or heard of the "ope-

ERAP/A20



USUAL SUSPECTS in the Dacer-Corbito murder mystery, according to Mancao as illustrated in this infographics superimposed on Bubby Dacer's Toyota Revo found abandoned on Nov. 27, 2000 in Maragondon, Cavite.

Jalosjos offers no apology

By Marlon Ramos

FREED CHILD RAPIST ROMEO Jalosjos has no intention of apologizing to his victim who was 11 years old at the time of the crime.

Instead, the former Zamboanga del Norte lawmaker plans to move for a retrial of the statutory rape case in which a Makati City court found him guilty in 1997.

"I want my name cleared and my innocence [proved]," Jalosjos yesterday told the Inquirer.

He said he had informed his family of his plan to file a petition for a retrial in the Supreme Court. He expressed confidence that the high court, which twice turned down his motion for reconsideration—in 2001 and

JALOSJOS/A12

Nicole case raises more questions

By Michael Lim Ubac and Christian V. Esguerra

WAS HER CONVICTED RAPIST, if not the US government itself, behind the change of heart of "Nicole," the Filipino woman who briefly served as a symbol of the purported iniquity of the Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA)?

NICOLE CASE/A6

Timeline

High-profile PR practitioner abducted, killed

NOV. 24, 2000. PUBLIC RELAtions man Salvador "Bubby" Dacer and his driver Emmanuel Corbito are abducted in Manila and are taken to Cavite, where they are strangled, burned and buried.

Nov. 27. Abandoned car of Dacer found in Maragondon, Cavite.

HIGH-PROFILE/A19

Dacer's killers: Who and why?

(Editor's Note: The following column, written by Supreme Court Associate Justice Antonio Carpio when he was still a columnist for the Philippine Daily Inquirer, appeared on June 24, 2001.

In his column reproduced in full, Carpio cites a handwritten affidavit executed by then Supt. Glenn Dumlao.

Later, in a second and typewritten affidavit dated May 20, 2003, Dumlao said the first affidavit was a fabricated document which other Philippine National Police officers had forced him to sign.

More significant, Carpio provides a possible motive.)



CROSSCURRENTS
Antonio T. Carpio

THE HAND-WRITTEN AFFIdavit of Supt. Glenn Dumlao is like a map that leads us right on the very doorsteps of Bubby Dacer's killers. Who killed Dacer and why? In his affidavit Dumlao points to "Malacañang" as the mastermind, adding that then PNP Chief Panfilo Lacson knew from the very start about the operation to kill Dacer.

DACER'S KILLERS/A11

Lopez patriarch says giving up Meralco painful

By Doris C. Dumlao

GIVING UP A CONTROLLING stake in Manila Electric Co. (Meralco), the country's biggest power retailer, was "painful" and "difficult" for the Lopez clan, but it had to be done out of necessity, the family's patriarch Oscar M. Lopez said yesterday.

Oscar dismissed as "speculation" an Inquirer report quoting a Meralco insider and other sources that said his brother Manuel (more popularly called Manolo), chair of Meralco, was kept out of the loop during the negotiations with Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT) that led to the sale of a 20-percent block held by First Philippine Holdings Corp. (FPH).

FPH is the holding company for the family's energy-related businesses.

"Given how Meralco's history has been intertwined with our family, acceptance of this sale was not easy, most especially by my brother Manolo, who has invested more than 20 years of his life with the company," Oscar said in a statement.

"However, beyond merely just being a family matter, any decision to sell a substantial stake in Meralco ultimately necessitated a proper review and approval by FPH," he said.

LOPEZ/A19

Jobseekers swamp gov't job website

By Kristine L. Alave

IT'S ANOTHER SIGN OF the times.

Amid the economic downturn, more people are turning to jobs online, particularly through a site

JOBSEEKERS/A11



Second FRONT PAGE

WEATHER FORECAST

SUERTRES SIX DIGIT

SUPERLOTTO 6/49

2 3 15 18 28 52

P85,153,057.20

Raps filed in tax credit scam

Plunder, graft, estafa for P74-M fraud

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN YESTERDAY FILED plunder, graft and estafa charges against a former finance assistant secretary, other finance officials and several businessmen for allegedly defrauding the government of almost P74 million through the illegal use of fraudulently obtained tax credit certificates.

According to the complaint before the Sandiganbayan, the public officials conspired with owners and officers of the Filstar Textile Industrial Corporation (Filstar) in issuing tax credit certificates (TCC) to the garment company even if it was not qualified to receive them.

"It leaves the mind how it possibly occurred. The only answer is that all the public officials responsible turned a blind eye to the anomaly," said the Ombudsman's resolution.

Plunder

Those charged with plunder are former finance assistant Secretary Antonio Belicena, who was the administrator of the One-Stop Shop Inter-Agency Tax Credit and Duty Drawback Center (Center), former Center deputy executive director Uldarico Andutan Jr., Center reviewer Asuncion Magdaet, tax specialist Rowena Malonzo; Filstar owners Francisco and Gloria Chingkoe; and Filstar corporate secretary Ernest Chingkoe and representative Caroline Anson Bautista.

Charged with graft and estafa were Belicena, the Chingkoes, Andutan, Magdaet and finance evaluators Jose Avenas, Chevy Gianan, Emelita Tusol, Chantelle Becerra, Annabelle Dizon, Mercedes Tenbolt, Hermes Ocfe and Gregorio Tuzon-Evangelio, as well as Bautista and other Filstar officers Maximiano Acla, Antonio Asto and Rodel Rodriguez.

Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp. general manager Cecilio Cruz, Petron vice president and general manager Celso Lagarde and Duncan Mobile Power Corp. vice president for logistics Leonardo Ramos were also charged with estafa and graft for allegedly buying some of the fraudulent TCCs from Filstar.

Obstruction of charges

The Ombudsman also ordered the filing of obstruction charges against the Chingkoe couple and finance senior tax analyst [illegible] Dulce.

According to the complaint, Filstar allegedly forged its supporting documents to apply for tax credits for exported yarn products that were never manufactured or sold.

Tax credits are refund payments that export companies are allowed to claim for duties paid on imported materials used for the manufacture of products for export. Instead of a cash refund, the government issues certificates, the TCCs, which companies can use to settle tax obligations. The companies are also allowed to sell the TCCs to other companies.

The Chingkoe couple are the major suspects in the tax credit scam of the mid-1990s, in which some 44 companies they owned allegedly obtained through fraudulent means tax credit certificates worth about P5.3 billion which were sold to other companies which then used them to pay their tax obligations.

P5.3-B scam

The Office of the Ombudsman earlier filed graft charges against Belicena, Andutan, the Chingkoes and five of their employees involving another company, Express Colour Industries, also for allegedly defrauding the government of almost P275 million between 1995 and 1998 through the use of fraudulent TCCs.

The Chingkoe couple have avoided prosecution by living in foreign countries.

Felix Chingkoe, a brother of Francisco, is the government's main witness in the tax credit scam cases.



MIAA General Manager Alfonso Cusi and Immigration Commissioner Marcelino Libanan show the ISO certificate in yesterday's airport ceremonies.

Naia gets coveted ISO certification

By Jerome Aning

THE MANILA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT Authority (Miaa) received yesterday a long-awaited International Standards Organization (ISO) certification for Ninoy Aquino International Airport (Naia) Terminal 1.

During simple rites at the airport, Miaa General Manager Alfonso Cusi received a framed ISO Certificate (9001:2008) from Neil Regalado, vice president and general manager of Anglo Japanese American Registrars Inc., which audited passenger handling at Naia 1.

"Facing up to the needs of passengers every day is a challenge in itself; standardizing procedures and processes for a facility with annual passenger traffic of 7.43 million is an even greater challenge. But as one family, we learned it and are now reaping the fruits. I feel very proud of this achievement," Cusi told reporters.

The Switzerland-based ISO, founded in 1947, promulgates worldwide proprietary industrial and commercial standards.

After the ISO certification for facilitating passenger processes, a second auditing for other certifications has been set such as the Naia engineering, operations, safety and security and finance administration.

Cusi said the ISO certification meant Naia 1 standards were at par with those of other international airports in the world.

"After receiving the certification, the challenge begins because it will go to nothing if we don't put action behind it," Cusi told assembled Miaa officers and staff.

Miaa assistant general manager for airport development and corporate affairs Tess Serrano said the authority had formed a quality management system team to ensure compliance with standardized ISO procedures.

"The QMS aims for passenger confidence with the predictability of the processes aimed at passenger convenience. We need to back up our service branding efforts to make the Naia a truly world-class airport [illegible] approach towards process and quality improvements," Serrano said.

HIGH COST OF ILLEGAL DRUGS

Even junkies feel pinch of crisis

By TJ Burgonio

[illegible]

Anti-drug czar

[illegible]

'Get Ang'

[illegible]

Pag-IBIG chief quits

[illegible]

Bigger issue

[illegible]



DepEd appeals: No politicians on school stage, please

NO POLITICIANS on the school stage, please.

More China ships to patrol Spratlys

BEIJING—CHINA WILL CONVERT MORE navy ships into fishery vessels to patrol the South China Sea, the China Daily reported.

'Unfounded claims'

Busiest shipping lanes

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Nicole case raises more questions

From page A1

At least three senators are raising suspicions in the wake of Nicole's submission of a sworn statement raising doubt about her rape by Lance Cpl. Daniel Smith, and her flight to the United States, apparently for good.

According to Sen. Loren Legarda, Nicole's case has implications on the VFA, which governs the conduct of US troops in the Philippines and which is now the subject of calls for review or outright termination.

"There's more than meets the eye in this issue," she said, noting that the agreement that became effective in 1999 was very important with respect to the United States' war on terror and its strategic and security interests in the Asian region.

"It cannot be discounted that extreme pressure may have been applied on Nicole for her to recant her [court testimony] at the risk of facing perjury and other charges against her," said Legarda, who had voted against the ratification of the agreement.

"Nicole's leaving for the US also raises questions because if it is true that she may have wrongfully accused Smith of raping her, why would she choose to live in the native land of the man she may have wronged?" Legarda said.

Form and timing

In a statement, Sen. Francis Pangilinan raised "serious questions about the form and timing" of Nicole's sworn statement dated March 12.

"What boggles my mind right now is why the new affidavit comes from the lawyer of Daniel Smith and not her own lawyer," Pangilinan said.

"Isn't that strange?" he said, calling attention to "the timing of events" that included the "tussle over Smith's custody," US President Barack Obama's telephone call to President Macapagal-Arroyo raising his commitment to the VFA, and Nicole's affidavit.

"Why just now?" said Pangilinan, who filed in February Senate Resolution No. 892 calling for the termination of the VFA.

He added: "We do not wish to question Nicole's integrity but we wonder if there's a higher hand behind all this."

On the phone, Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. said that if not the US government, "others operating to acquit Smith" were behind Nicole's affidavit.

Pimentel declared, however, that Nicole's move would have no bearing on the planned review of the VFA.

Japan Airlines

Nicole's departure for the United States was announced on March 17, by her now ex-lawyer, Evalyn Ursua, who said she had no prior knowledge of the move. Nicole's mother confirmed Ursua's announcement.

Based on records of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport and the Bureau of Immigration office made available to the Inquirer, Nicole flew to Japan on Mar. 15 on board Flight 746 of Japan Airlines.

Flight 746, a Boeing 747 plane with 400 passengers, left Naia 1 at 9:00 a.m. and arrived at Tokyo's Narita Airport at 1:55 p.m.

Nicole was listed among the passengers, but the records did not indicate her connecting flight to United States.

The US Embassy in Manila yesterday maintained a tight lip on the matter, saying it had no knowledge of Nicole's whereabouts.

Spokesperson Rebecca Thompson told the Inquirer that the embassy was aware of media reports stating that Nicole had flown to the United States.



WISHFUL THINKING. Female Filipino activists on Thursday hold pictures of the [illegible] corporal in the country today during a rally in front of the Court of Appeals where Smith is appealing his conviction in "Nicole's" rape.

"We don't have further information suggesting her whereabouts," Thompson said.

"Every day, people come here for visa applications and for privacy reasons, we don't divulge details about them or their applications," she said.

Palace to the defense

Malacañang defended Nicole against criticism over her decision to at last clear her conscience.

Anthony Golez, deputy spokesperson of Ms Arroyo, said Ursua should respect the former client's decision.

"The lawyers know that they cannot be very emotional on a case. They should be objective. They must also respect the client's right to reach her decision. The reason is very personal to Nicole, whatever that is," Golez told reporters in an ambush interview.

"We should all respect [the decision] and we should move on," he said, adding:

"We cannot do anything about it because Nicole is the key player in this and it's her right to [do] what she has done. [Let's] respect that. Lawyers, most especially should also."

Golez said the government would continue negotiating with US authorities on the Philippine-run facility that should hold Smith. "The process still continues," he said.

But US Ambassador Kristie Kenney has yet to sit with Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo for a formal negotiation.

Smith has been detained at the US Embassy since his midnight transfer there from the Makati City Jail in December 2006.

In a ruling issued last month, the Supreme Court said Smith should be held in a Philippine-run facility while he awaits the resolution of his appeal.

The ruling also upheld the constitutionality of the VFA.

Golez said Malacañang was also awaiting the high court's word on its motion for clarification regarding Smith's custody.

Asked if Malacañang was open to the review of the VFA, he said: "Anything for the betterment of anything in our government, the Palace is for it."

But he said the government could not just walk into the review of the agreement. "There is a process in reviewing the VFA. It must not be unilaterally done."

Dismayed

Jaro Archbishop Angel Lagdameo, president of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines, said he too was dismayed by the contents of Nicole's affidavit.

He said it had put the Philippines' criminal justice system "in an embarrassing situation."

"Because of the involvement of money in her recantation, people will somehow doubt the credibility of her recent statement," Lagdameo said, referring to the admission of Nicole's mother that the family had received P100,000 from Smith as payment for "damages."

He said other rape victims whose cases were still in court and who probably found some inspiration in Nicole's legal victory in 2006 "would somehow be confused" by her recent stance.

Sticking to facts

But according to a lawmaker who was among the first to talk to Nicole following her rape accusation against Smith, she told more of the truth in her latest affidavit.

Zambales Rep. Milagros Magsaysay said the March 12 affidavit revealed more facts compared to the first one that Nicole had filed along with her criminal complaint.

"Whatever she said in this affidavit ... is more or less sticking to the facts," Magsaysay told reporters in an ambush interview at the [illegible] forum in Quezon City.

"She did not say outright that she was not raped. She just said that she might have invited him and gave him the wrong signal, which is how I read it also. Because she was dead drunk and she was dancing, dirty dancing," Magsaysay said.

Magsaysay met with Nicole in November 2005, shortly after it became known that a young Filipino woman had accused six American soldiers of rape at the Subic Freeport Zone.

The lawmaker recalled that Nicole had told her about being so drunk that she could hardly walk to get out of the bar.

"I don't have any regret or remorse that I helped Nicole. I would have done it to anyone," she said. *With reports from Jerome Aning, Cynthia D. Balana, Leila B. Salaverria, and [illegible]*

Docs urge vaccination vs cervical cancer for girls



St. Luke's unveils world's most advanced CT scanner

One of only 2 in SE Asia

Key insights

Give new NPO chief a chance, says Namfrel

Customs exec faces raps over P60-M assets

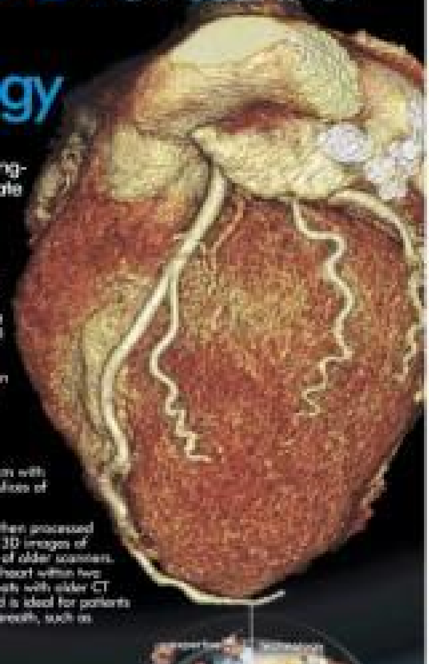
Moral renewal plans for gov't agencies

[illegible]











THE PHILIPPINE SOCIETY OF ENDOCRINOLOGY AND METABOLISM

MESSAGES

PSEM MISSION

To lead in the pursuit of excellence in Endocrinology

PSEM VISION

2nd PSEM CONGRESS ON PREDIABETES AND THE METABOLIC SYNDROME

Theme: Addressing Current Controversies in Prediabetes and the Metabolic Syndrome

March 25, 2009

Edsa Shangri-La Hotel, Mandaluyong City

P R O G R A M

For further details, please call
THE PSEM SECRETARIAT
Unit 1701, 17th floor, Medical Plaza, Ortigas
Tel No : (02) 633-6329
Fax No : (02) 637-3162
Email : sec@endo-society.org.ph
Website : www.endo-society.org.ph

PSEM Officers & Board of Directors 2008-2009











2009 PSEM ANNUAL CONVENTION

March 26-27, 2009

Theme: Endocrine Crosstalk: Linking with Other Specialties

Edsa Shangri-La Hotel, Mandaluyong City

P R O G R A M

Ex-PSG chief tells court of GMA-Trillanes Palace meeting

Grievances

Protective custody





FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

Senate

P. S. No. ______

Introduced by Senator Juan Ponce Enrile

A RESOLUTION

CALLING FOR THE IMMEDIATE RESIGNATION OF THE OFFICIALS OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION AND STRONGLY CONDEMNING THEIR INCOMPETENCE, FAILURE AND INUTILITY IN PERFORMING THEIR MANDATE TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC FROM PREDATORY AND UNSCRUPULOUS PRACTICES OF INDIVIDUALS AND COMPANIES ESPECIALLY IN THE PRE-NEED INDUSTRY SUCH AS THE LEGACY CONSOLIDATED PLAN CAUSING THE LOSS OF MILLIONS OF PESOS IN INVESTMENTS OF THOUSANDS OF PLAN-HOLDERS WHO WERE VICTIMIZED BY THESE COMPANIES

Whereas, under Section 2 of Republic Act No. 8799 or the Securities Regulations Code, it is the declared policy of the state to promote the development of the capital market, protect investors, minimize if not totally eliminate insider trading and other fraudulent or manipulative devices and practices which create distortions in the free market;

Whereas, RA No. 8799 likewise mandates the Securities and Exchange Commission to effectively regulate and monitor the capital market and widely disseminate reliable information for the protection of the investing public;

Whereas, with regard to the pre-need industry, the Securities and Regulations Commission was given the widest leeway to prescribe rules and regulations on the pre-need industry, including registration of pre-need plans, licensing of persons involved in the sale of pre-need plans, requiring disclosures to prospective plan holders, imposing capital, bonding and other financial responsibility, and establishing trust funds for the payment of benefits under such plans;

Whereas, in the case of the Legacy Consolidated Plan, the SEC as regulator has evidently failed to closely monitor the operations of the pre-need company. Furthermore, the SEC's pronouncements that they were "surprised" when the company filed for dissolution were a clear indication that the SEC had not been dutifully performing its mandated task to the detriment of the plan holders of this particular pre-need company;

Whereas, similar incidents have already taken place in the past involving pre-need giants, such as the College Assurance Plan and the Pacific Educational Plan companies, which clearly demonstrated the need to amend and/or revise the SEC's rules and regulations on the pre-need industry to minimize, if not eliminate, the same problems now faced by the clientele of the Legacy Consolidated Plan who have invested their life savings in various plans to secure their personal retirement as well as their children's education through these companies' services;

Whereas, as guardian of the securities and capital market, the SEC clearly failed to perform its duties and exercise its powers in dealing with dubious business practices and outright scams which have resulted in the loss of billions of hard-earned money of Filipino investors such as in the cases of Standard Charter Bank, Philcomsat Holdings, and other pyramiding scams similar to Singaporean Michael Liew's Performance Products Investment (PIPC) scheme;

Whereas, worse, based on the testimonies presented during the public hearings conducted by the Senate Committees on Trade and Industry, and Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies, there is sufficient evidence to show that the SEC's failure was not only a nonfeasance nor a case of incompetence but attended by questionable and corrupt practices of the officials of this government agency;

Whereas, despite the ample authority vested upon the SEC, the agency has been sordidly negligent of its duties and responsibilities, has remained passive in exercising its oversight functions, and was unacceptably slow in acting upon the problems falling within their mandate;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, as it is hereby resolved, to strongly condemn the incompetence and failure of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the inutility of its officials in performing their mandate to protect the public from predatory and unscrupulous practices of individuals and companies especially in the pre-need industry such as the Legacy Consolidated Plan causing the loss of millions of pesos in investments of thousands of plan-holders who were victimized by these companies;

Be it resolved further that the Senate calls for the immediate resignation of the officials of the Securities and Exchange Commission and urges the Executive Department to hold these officials accountable by filing the necessary cases against them who have not only been remiss in their duty but have aided or served as agents in carrying out such grand schemes to defraud the people.

Adopted ,

JUAN PONCE ENRILE
Senator

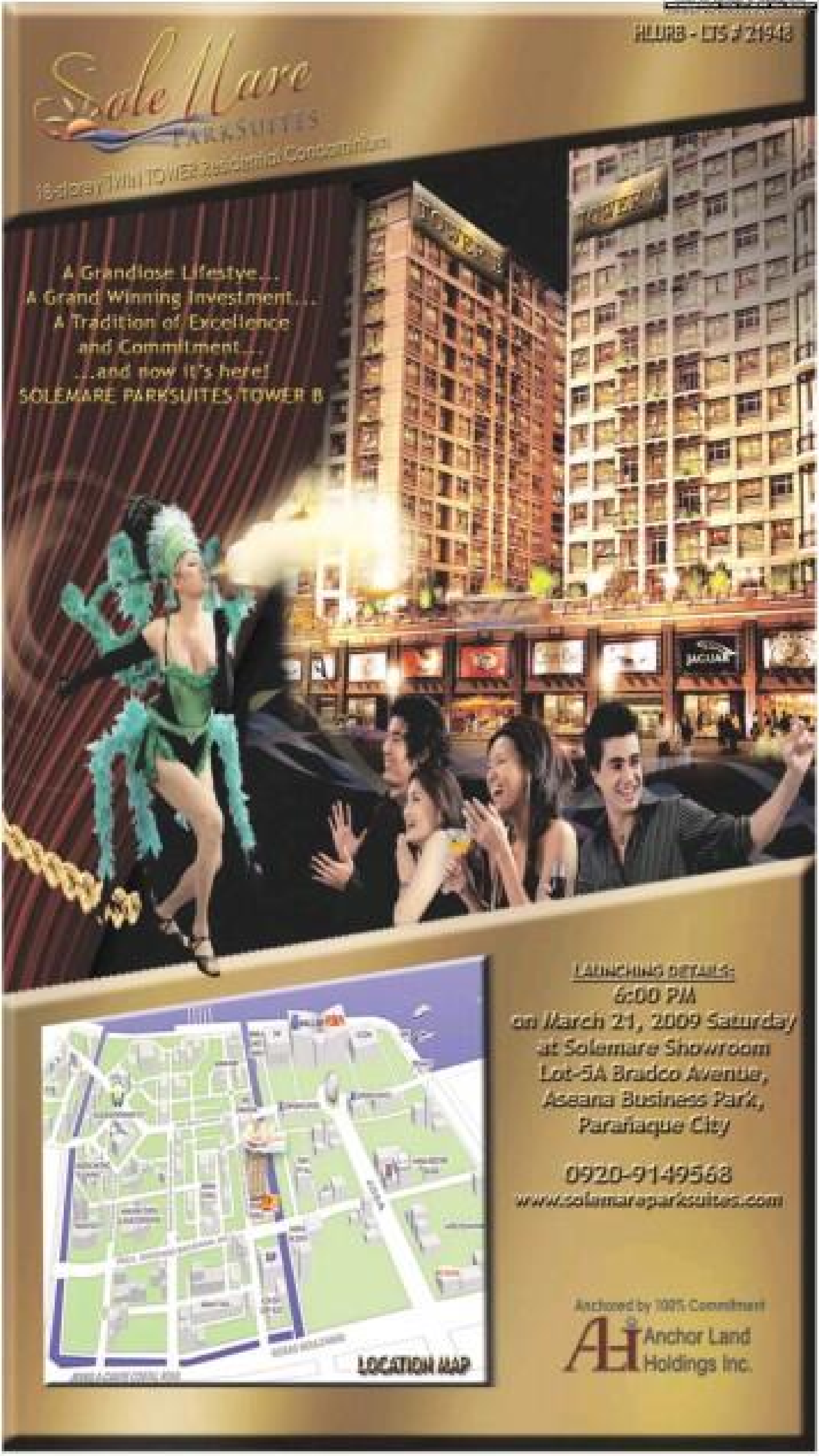
Equal times of day and night on vernal equinox this weekend

QC student heads VP scholars

By Cynthia D. Balana

Palace ceremonies

Back to court for 2 RAM boys


HLURB - LTS # 21948
Sole Mare
PARKSUITES
A Grandiose Lifestye....
A Grand Winning Investment....
A Tradition of Excellence
and Commitment....
...and now it's here!
SOLEMARE PARKSUITES TOWER B
JAGUAR
LOCATION MAP
LAUNCHING DETAILS:
6:00 PM
on March 21, 2009 Saturday
at Solemare Showroom
Lot-5A Bradco Avenue,
Aseana Business Park,
Parañaque City
0920-9149568
Anchor Land
Holdings Inc.

Jalosjos offers no apology

Jazz music

'Transformation'

Government neglect

'A friend'

'Sir Nonong'

'Through the process'



GOODBYE TO ALL THAT Jalosjos says farewell to the press after interviewing him inside the Tennis Academy of the Philippines Foundation which he built with his own funds in Katarungan Village adjacent to the New Bilibid Prison in Muntinlupa City.



FULL BENCH PRESS Jalosjos faces the press as a free man. A grand welcome awaits Zamboanga City's once and future (perhaps) favorite son.

INQUIRER

OPINION

Deconstructing Nicole

EDITORIAL



Whistle-blowers an endangered species in RP

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

Desperately seeking the non-'trapo'

PASSION FOR REASON

Raul C. Pangalangan

A shot across the bow

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila



Was she. . .?

PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan



Coercion

Asking for it

Confused about 'Nicole'

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David



The sculptor in National Artist Arturo Luz

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo



Something for Inquirer to initiate—again

Misquote could unfairly besmirch judge's name

A View From Above: HP Partner's Night 08







After his 'Subic circus,' Palafox's apology useless

Suggestion for pro-RH European commission head

Dumlao files habeas corpus petition to stop extradition to RP

AFP troops pulled back; release of hostage seen



A SOLDIER'S FUNERAL



"ON THE RUN"

'More lives at stake'

'Why does gov't want us to die?'

Across the NATION

Ombudsman kills case in Sandiganbayan on Cebu lamppost scam

Army set up camps in churches, schools in North, solons told

Endearing soldiers

Clearing operations



'Catching' clouds tour package soon

Among clouds

New idea

4 cloud types

GMA successor's task: Irrigate 1M ha of farms

NEWSBRIEFS

Grenade kills boy

Airport fiasco

3 dead in smashup

Fisheries paper awards

Lopez patriarch says giving up Meralco painful

PATRIARCHS ALL







OSCAR Lopez, the reigning patriarch

Lopez energy stocks drop

Dividend

Anguish understandable

Next on the block

Rethink strategy

Jobseekers swamp government job website

Part-time work, too

New stimulus plan

Lethal mix

High-profile PR practitioner abducted, killed

Erap, Ping tied to Dacer-Corbito murders

'Without my knowledge'

'Tactical interrogation'

Lacson's order

Meeting with Pagcor chair

Mancao affidavit: 'Tapusin muna namin si Delta, sir'

Dacer's killers: Who and why?







Late SPORTS

Beermen down Realtors



Slumping Gin Kings battle Aces

Lascuña joint fifth in India



Aplus
METRO
Editor: Abelardo S. Ulanday





4 students nabbed for robbing taxi driver

By Nancy C. Carvajal

FOUR YOUNG MEN WHO claimed to be students from well-known exclusive schools were arrested early yesterday morning for allegedly robbing a taxi driver on the University of the Philippines campus in Diliman, Quezon City.

However, they were released at around 2 p.m. after the driver filed an affidavit of desistance, Supt. Oscar Pellano, Quezon City Police District Station 9 commander, told the Inquirer in a phone interview.

A report from the UP Police identified the four as [illegible], 18, a student of [illegible] College; [illegible], 24, of the Center for Culinary Arts; [illegible], 19, and a 17-year-old boy, both from the [illegible] de Manila High School.

Assistant City Prosecutor [illegible], however, ordered their release after taxi driver [illegible] said he would no longer pursue the case against them during inquest proceedings.

[illegible] earlier told the police that the young men flagged him down at around [illegible] a.m. on [illegible] Avenue in [illegible] and asked to be taken to UP.

When they arrived on the campus, the four declared a holdup, held a gun and knife to his neck, and took his cell phone and P[illegible] in earnings.

The young men were arrested when the victim screamed for help, attracting the attention of barangay watchmen.

Pellano said the watchmen placed the suspects in the custody of the UP police who then turned them over to him at around [illegible] a.m.

The young men were later joined at the police station by their parents who brought along lawyers. However, the four refused to answer questions as they invoked their right to remain silent.

Ambushed DPWH exec dies

By Kristine L. Alave

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS Undersecretary Ramon Aquino, who was ambushed by unidentified gunmen last week, succumbed to complications from his injuries yesterday afternoon. He was 54.

Aquino, according to his media officer, [illegible], died at around [illegible] p.m. after he went into cardiac arrest at the intensive care unit of the Manila Doctors Hospital in Manila.

[illegible] said doctors tried but failed to revive Aquino who underwent surgery on Saturday to remove a bullet from his body.

Aquino, along with his bodyguard and driver, were ambushed by unidentified gunmen as his Toyota [illegible] was leaving the Department of Public Works and Highways main office on Bonifacio Drive, Port Area, Manila on March 11.

He sustained two gunshot wounds on his right side while his bodyguard, [illegible], was shot in the face. On the other hand, the driver, [illegible], suffered superficial wounds.

DPWH officials refused to speculate on the motive for the ambush, saying it was a police matter.

Manila Police District [illegible] Station [illegible] commander and Task Group Aquino spokesperson [illegible] said the investigators that they were still working on the case.

"A team of investigators is still questioning employees and security guards assigned at the DPWH for any leads to the identities and whereabouts of the suspects," he said.

With [illegible]



Oil depots seen to hamper river cleanup

By Alcuin Papa

ALLOWING FACTORIES and oil depots on the banks of the Pasig River will hamper efforts to clean it up, the Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC) said yesterday.

In a statement yesterday, PRRC executive director Deogracias Tablan said the agency is opposed to the move of some Manila City councilors to amend the city's comprehensive zoning plan, saying it would set back the campaign to clean up the river.

Proposed industrial zone in Manila hurdles 2nd reading

By Erika Sauler

THE MANILA CITY COUNCIL yesterday passed on second reading a draft ordinance that would create zones for medium and heavy industries in the city amid allegations of "procedural lapses" by the minority councilors and the City Planning and Development Office (CPDO).



OHH SUMMER!
Three boys enjoy the cool waters at the Amoranto Sports Complex swimming pool in Quezon City. The pool is reportedly recognized as the cleanest and cheapest pool in Metro Manila. The entrance fee is only P12.

Education programs top priority in Makati, allotted P1.7B this year

By Allison W. Lopez

TO SHOW ITS PRIORITIES, THE Makati city government dedicated P1.7 billion to its education programs this year.

Suspects in student's slay nabbed in Navotas

By Jeannette I. Andrade

AGENTS OF THE NATIONAL Bureau of Investigation have nabbed four gang men, including a teenager, suspected to be involved in the killing of a 17-year-old engineering student.

Off-duty cop fights off 2 thieves; kills one of them

By Nancy Carvajal

AN OFF-DUTY POLICEMAN OF the Northern Police District shot and killed one of two men who tried to rob him on Wednesday night, a police official reported yesterday.

Did not notice

Forced to shoot

METROBRIEFS

Birthday celebrator hurt in party brawl

Dialogue sought over bird sanctuary plan

New raps vs alleged drug den operator

DID YOU KNOW



VALENZUELA City Rep. Rex Gatchalian (second from right) poses with students from the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Valenzuela who are recipients of his "REX-panalalong Iskolar" scholarship program.

Obama seeks vastly expanded Afghan security force

[illegible]

Studies: Prostate test saves few lives

[illegible]





The WORLD

Editor: Lowell B. Bautista

Prosecution seeks maximum term for Fritzl

SANKT POELTEN, AUSTRIA—AN AUSTRIAN PROSECUTOR ON Thursday demanded life jail for Josef Fritzl for keeping his daughter locked up as a sex slave for 24 years and fathering her seven children.

Fritzl said "I'm sorry from the bottom of my heart. Unfortunately, I can't change anything now," in his final statement before the jury retired to consider a verdict.

But chief prosecutor Christiane Burkheiser said the remorse shown by Fritzl, who has pleaded guilty to the murder of one of the babies born in the dungeon cellar beneath the family home, was a sham.

"It was murder by neglect and that demands the maximum sentence," Burkheiser told jurors in her closing argument. The maximum sentence for murder is life imprisonment.

"Don't believe him, he's shown his true face in trying to exploit people's gullibility," Burkheiser said of Fritzl and his surprising change of heart in changing his plea to guilty to murder and enslavement on Wednesday.

Fritzl's lawyer Rudolf Mayer argued that there are "attenuating circumstances" in the case of the 73-year-old retired electrical engineer.

"Regarding the charge of murder, I don't believe it was," Mayer said in his closing statement.

"Attenuating circumstances must be taken into consideration. My client was responsible for his actions, but his personality has psychological abnormalities. He didn't choose to be the way he is," Mayer said.

Mayer confirmed that the imprisoned daughter, Elisabeth, had been in court on Tuesday and may have triggered the defendant's new plea.

"At the last minute, my client realized that Elisabeth was sitting there," Mayer said.

Fritzl had admitted the other four charges against him: incest, rape, coercion and grievous assault but when the trial opened he pleaded not guilty to murder and slavery.

The eight-person jury retired to consider a verdict which was expected within hours. The jury and three judges can order Fritzl be sent to a facility for mentally abnormal offenders for the rest of his life, as requested by the prosecution.

Psychiatrist Adelheid Kastner told the court on Wednesday that Fritzl posed a danger as he regarded himself as "born to rape" and should be held in a mental facility.

Kastner told Austrian television that Fritzl was "a suicide risk," after seeing his daughter's testimony, which he would have "difficulty living with."

"That was certainly the moment when the house of cards collapsed," she said.

The prosecution accuses Fritzl of murder for letting one of the seven children die shortly after birth in the cellar of the family home in the town of Amstetten, some 100 km west of Vienna.

After denying for months that he played any part in the death, a tearful Fritzl admitted on Wednesday that he knew the baby was ill, adding: "I don't know why I didn't help."

Fritzl entered the court on Thursday surrounded by police and wearing the same grey suit. He did not however try to cover his face from the cameras, as on previous days.

Fritzl said that it had been his daughter's video testimony shown to the trial that prompted his change of plea and a first sign of remorse.

Fritzl, who ruled his family with an iron fist, locked his daughter up in a cellar of his home on Aug. 29, 1984. He said she had joined an obscure sect.

Three of the surviving children were brought to live with Fritzl and his wife Rosemarie, 69, while the other three spent their entire lives in the dungeon, never seeing daylight. AFP

WorldBriefs

France, Germany, UN hit Pope over condoms

PARIS—France, Germany and the UN agency charged with fighting AIDS disagreed with the Pope's comment about condoms, saying on Wednesday that they are a fundamental tool in preventing the spread of the HIV virus. France "expresses its very strong concern about the consequences of the statements by Benedict XVI," French Foreign Ministry spokesperson Eric Chevallier said. During his first visit to Africa as Pope, Benedict said in Cameroon on Tuesday that the distribution of condoms could endanger public health and that they are not the solution to the fight against AIDS. "While it is not up to us to pass judgment on the doctrine of the Church, we consider that these statements endanger public health policies and the imperative to protect human life," Chevallier said. AFP

Israelis describe wanton killings of Gaza civilians

JERUSALEM—Israeli soldiers have described wanton killings of Palestinian civilians and destruction of property during the deadly 22-day Gaza offensive, according to accounts published on Thursday. One soldier described the case of an Israeli sharpshooter who killed a Palestinian mother and her two children who had left their home in a path the troops had declared off-limits, according to the journal of the Yitzhak Rabin pre-military academy. The publication, which quoted graduates of the college's military preparation course, also cited the case of an elderly Palestinian woman killed as she was walking 100 meters from her home. Soldiers also spoke of civilians being abused, acts of vandalism and destruction of homes. AFP

Madoff's auditor charged with securities fraud

NEW YORK—The federal investigation into Bernard L. Madoff's long-running $65-billion Ponzi scheme widened on Wednesday with the arrest of an accountant who had audited Madoff's investment advisory business for more than a decade. David G. Friehling, who operated from a tiny storefront office in the New York City suburb of New City in Rockland County, was charged with securities fraud and with aiding the investment adviser fraud committed by Madoff. A related civil case was filed against him and his firm, Friehling & Horowitz, by the Securities and Exchange Commission. AFP



Celtics cool Heat, clinch Atlantic title /A30

SPORTS

Editor: Teddyvic T. Melendres • Assistant Editor: Rolando T. J. Ordonez



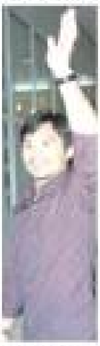


Network prepares lawsuit vs Pacquiao, ABS-CBN

Solar, GMA-7 assail Manny

By Marang R. Castillo

THE TOUGHEST FIGHT FOR Manny Pacquiao, it seems, will not be against Ricky Hatton.



PACQUIAO: Solar Sports accuses the ring superstar of breach of contract.

And this bout is one even in the ring. The Pacman might also have two opponents.

GMA Network, the country's other "broadcast giant," in a statement issued to media officers yesterday, expressed disappointment over the pugilist's recent decision to dump Solar Sports and seemed ready to take the boxing superstar to court.

The network cited its contract with Pacquiao that bars the world's pound-for-pound king from appearing in any other network outside of GMA-7.

It said that "in light of recent developments," it will now "have to review these (Pacquiao shows on GMA-7)."

GMA's statement came on the heels of a determined bid by cable network Solar Sports to sue Pacquiao for breach of contract and to stop the airing of his fights in the country over ABS-CBN through a temporary restraining order.

On Wednesday, Pacquiao announced on ABS-CBN's "TV Patrol" that he was renewing his ties with the Lopez-owned network, to which he granted exclusive rights for his next fights, starting with the Hatton bout on May 2 in Las Vegas.

Contract rescinded

The Filipino ring icon made the announcement after faxing Solar Sports a letter saying he was rescinding his contract, which runs until 2011.

GMA-7 does not own the exclusive rights to broadcast Pacquiao's fights, but enters into block time agreements with Solar Sports to air those fights in the country.

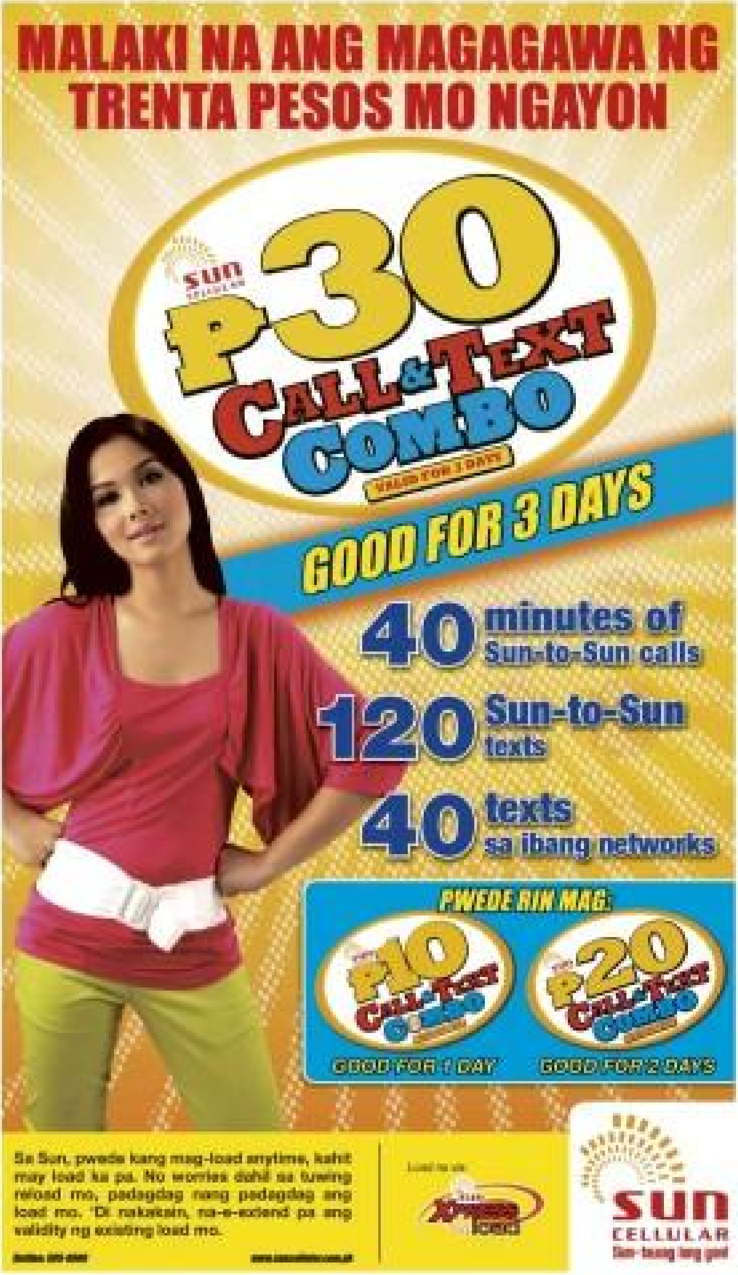
A Pacquiao confidant said one of the reasons why the General Santos City boxing icon ditched Solar Sports was because of a reported late payment in fees, which amounts to P40 million per fight.

Obligations settled

Solar Sports executives said Pacquiao had no fair reasons to abandon his deal with the cable network.

"Pacquiao has no reasons (to leave) because we have settled all our (financial) obligations with him," said Ralph Ray, Solar Sports' vice president for business development and operations.

Ray also said Solar Sports has the "legal prerogative where it wants to air the fights (of Pacquiao), and that (it had) a good partnership with GMA-7 going."



Mayweather vs Pacquiao: 'A Godzilla'



No smooth ride for Peping's equestrian

6-10 American beefs up RP quintet



SPORTSWATCH

Go, Coscolluela in Scoop

Mulawin 5-cocker today

KDJ derby lures 113 entries

PBA marketing and repackaging go hand-in-hand

HEART, SOUL, SPORTS



Ikeda slips to 4th, four off leader



Buenavista, Manipol hot favorites in Condura Run



BUENAVISTA



MANIPOL

Tiu is skipper as SBP presents Smart Gilas RP five

Get out of the house this summer

ONE GAME AT A TIME



Sev Sarmenta

INDIAN WELLS

Federer gains quarterfinals



Paras, Caidic head Hall of Fame nominees



CAIDIC



PARAS





The Arena adopts new name



CORPORATE CUP

Fagioli, CJH Seniors early group winners

Portuguese-Filipino pair rules hobie series

USOC lays off 54 employees

SPORTS

Olympic drums, scrolls net $17M

Celtics cool Heat, clinch Atlantic title

Suns 126, 76ers 114

Rockets 106, Pistons 101, 2 OT



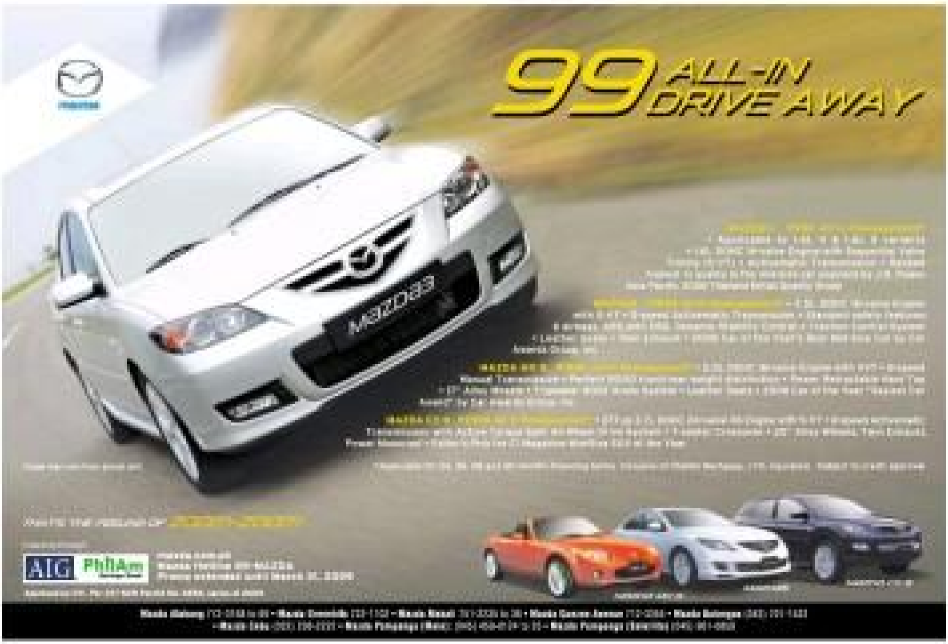
Japan hands Cuba worst WBC finish



Iraqi booter shot dead while attempting goal

Woods to play in Aussie Masters







Editor Raul O. Marcelo ■ Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma

BUSINESS



Meralco sets boardroom changes

IN THIS ISSUE
■ Local consumption still seen up /B3
■ Moody's sees negative outlook on RP banks /B4



By Doris C. Dumlao

DRASTIC DEVELOPMENTS CONTINUE TO UNfold at the Manila Electric Co. (Meralco), this time in the boardroom, reflecting changes in the company's equity ownership.

Based on a letter from Meralco corporate secretary [illegible] dated March 19, a copy of which was obtained by the Inquirer, the Lopez group continued to [illegible] Meralco chair Manuel Lopez and president Jose de Jesus to represent its remaining 13.4 [illegible] in the 11-member Meralco board.

Changes in the boardroom will be formalized during the annual stockholders meeting of the country's largest power retailer on May 26.

The Lopezes reportedly will reduce their representation from [illegible] while San Miguel Corp. and Philippine Long Distance [illegible]

MERALCO B2

DMCI unit scaling down ₱7.36-B power project

Demand from Panay lower than expected, says exec

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
Inquirer Visayas

BSP says credit crunch unlikely to happen in RP

By Michelle V. Remo

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Eastern recruiting

ICTSI Georgia's special service

IP-Converge ties up with ComClark

PCTO backs mobile phone bill



HYBRID RICE HARVEST FESTIVAL

Banks urged to increase SME lending

By Michelle V. Remo

San Carlos power generation project gets ERC approval

By Amy R. Remo

Meralco sets boardroom changes

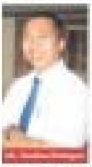
From page B1

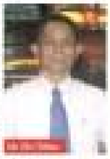
Local consumption still seen up

BSP says continuing remittances, BPO expansion to spur spending

Tainted Havaianas to be sent back to Brazil

Climbing their way to the top: McDonald's Outstanding Restaurant Managers





Asian hubris

Corporate Securities Info

Rosel J. Palabrica

WHERE'S THE RECESSION?

That question crossed my mind on my second day in Tokyo last week to attend a conference on enforcement of securities regulations amid the present global financial crisis.

[illegible]

Meltdown

[illegible]

Confidence

[illegible]

Experience

[illegible]

(For feedback, please write to [illegible])

Moody's sees negative outlook on RP banks

Slowing economy may weaken credit fundamentals

MOODY'S INVESTOR SERVICE says the fundamental credit outlook for the Philippine banking system is negative, reflecting expectations that a slowing economy will contribute to a cyclical weakening in the country's bank credit fundamentals.

[illegible]

Reuters

Shares close up 0.56%

[illegible]

AFP

TA Oil declares cash dividend

By [illegible]

TRANS-ASIA OIL AND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT Corp. yesterday said its board of directors had approved a cash dividend [illegible] to all the company's shareholders.

[illegible]

SMC unit developing sorghum farm

[illegible]

Philippine Stock Exchange

[illegible]

Currencies

[illegible]

Spanish firm plans tram line for Baguio

By Vincent Cabreza
Inquirer Northern Luzon

AFCs and empowerment of rural women

COMMENTARY

Investing in women

International convention

Role of AFCs

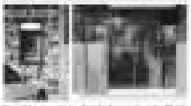
Right moves

RP ready to export organic products

Local market worth $10M and growing

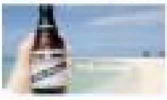


Premiere Bank brings pleasant banking experience closer to Marikina homes



BusinessFriday

WINNING STRATEGIES



Local companies can showcase unique traits of Filipinos



Marketing Filipino brands overseas

Oishi, C2 show ways to beat competition

By Willy E. Arcilla





MARKETING/B2-3

PHILIPPINE furniture

IN THIS ISSUE

Partners in soy candle venture make Mother Nature proud /B2-4



People, Events & Products

Jollibee and Shell: Feeding minds and driving hope among the youth



LIVING IT UP AT PRAMANA

HOLCIM PARTNERS WITH BAGUIO CITY GOVERNMENT



VISA LAUNCHES 1ST GLOBAL ADCAMPAIGN





ASLP INDUCTION OF 2009 BOARD OF OFFICERS

Product Files

Quality living at Stateland's Crystal Place



Bits & Clips

YEC trade-in promo

Fortune Medicare's 2009 Annual Sales Awards

Make Australia your dream home

ASLP holds seminar-workshop

Nancy Reyes-Lumen supports Wofex Visayas

Getting to know more about the US frozen potatoes



INSULAR BANK CELEBRATES 15TH ANNIVERSARY



PLDT INKS TIES WITH AMBERLAND CORPORATION

Filipino marketer out to conquer China, Japan shampoo markets



YOUNG Market Masters Awardee Sam Christopher Lim (2nd from left) with officials of YMMA founder Mansmith and Fielders.

Brand manager

Exciting times

Natural affinity

GOINGS-ON

Mansmith and Fielders honors marketing execs

Franchising book out

Work, play at 1880 Eastwood Avenue

Petron offers service checkups

Events planning lessons offered

HTC launches promo

Retiree stops smelling the roses, puts money in hotdog franchise



ED HIFE is happy with his Smokey's hotdog.

Success story

Back to basics

Trusted brand

Marketing big Filipino brands ...

BUSINESS *Friday*

Laguna couple find fortune in discards





Partners in soy candle venture make Mother Nature proud







Alice Blue owners are looking to expand to the export market

LIFESTYLE Fashion & Beauty
Editor: Thelma Sioson San Juan
Contributing Editors: Apples Aberin-Sadhwani, Joni Gomez and Ma. Francesca Prieto





Assumption girls band together for Mar

Their battle song: 'Stand By Mar' (and Korina?)


MAN OF THE HOUR Sen. Mar Roxas, with [illegible]

WHEN MAR CALLS, THE girls come running. So it was like Assumption Day at Balay ni Mar where 200 Assumption alumnae from different batches gathered to launch the Assumption for Mar movement, which will support Sen. Mar Roxas when he runs in the 2010 presidential elections.

Assumption for Mar will not only help in the campaign, [illegible] with [illegible] programs and medical missions in depressed areas.

The girls had a super great time chatting and reminiscing, until the man of the hour, Senator Roxas, gave his [illegible] talk on his presidential platform. All listened intently to his plans "for a better future for our country." All [illegible] to help him; they even signed up for different activities.

It was definitely a happening. Young or old Assumption girls came together [illegible] for change and building a better country to the rallying song "Stand by Me," [illegible] "Stand by Mar."

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH
Maurice Arcache



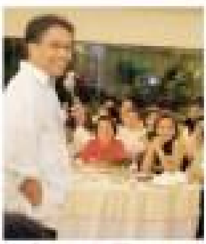
Photos by Alice Van Hagen using [illegible]

New summer line

Now [illegible] summer has arrived, darlings, when [illegible] brand Sprede rolls out its Spring/Summer collection. The collection was presented in a fast-paced show of [illegible] prints and [illegible] designs revolving around Fashion, Sports and Performance.

The show was held in the sprawling garden of the new [illegible] Manila in McKinley Hills, the first time a fashion show was done there. [illegible] from the hot [illegible] collection in psychedelic designs.

[illegible] C2


ROXAS speaking before 200 Assumption alumnae



HIGH School Class '74: Amy Ramos Uy, Dina Reodor Bhasin, Mely Diaz, Pinky Cuneta Roxas, Bles Limjap Villanueva and Margarita Fores; (seated) Hony Claudio, Marissa Delgado, Gisela Valderrama, Patty Soriano de la Rama, Lizi Lozano Viola, Cozer Parlaman, Angie Tabora Imperial, Lala Fragante Nabong



THE GALA sign up to support Sen. Mar Roxas.

Assumption girls band together for Mar



STANDING, from left, Buddie Ramoso, Judy Roxas, Lilia Cordero, Alice Briones, Chas Concepcion; (seated) Menka Ocampo, Olive Arceo, Nanoy Bilendong and Ofelia Lopez



MARYIC Sitin, Judy Araneta Roxas, Betchay Montenegro, Marly Ledesma, Nanette Alberto and Vicky Cruz; (seated) Lianne Bautista, Marianne Prado and Malou Montemayor



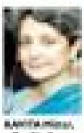
DEEDY Barreiro, Vicky Cruz; (seated) Marilou Barreiro, Nicky Portorro, Conchita B. Cojuangco, Marilou Bolagnos and Mila Prado



SPEEDO Philippines' Vandana Wahtani, Manish Wahtani, Edwin Yuxtilo and Elizabeth Lim



ANNA Coldero and her husband, Speedo VP for Operations Manish Wahtani, with businessman Fernando Pelaz



KAVITA Mitter, wife of Indian ambassador Ranjit Mitter

From page C1

Celebrating Brazil's culture were vintage-inspired swimsuits and coverups—part of Speedo's sexy Sports line. Fun and playful was the Fashion line, with dress-like pieces suited for different body types, paleggyo.

The All Stars gave a show-stopping performance, pointing to Speedo's Performance line, which highlighted the Fastskin LZR Racer. This is the line worn by champions—athletes who have shattered 80 world records since its launch in February 2008.

One of the few men in the audience told us, "You notice, Minerva, the less the women's bikinis are, the more they cost? I also noticed while I was in Hawaii that some mature women reveal their figures to hide their age." I agreed totally.

In the audience were British Ambassador Peter Beckingham and wife Jill; Indian Ambassador Ranjit Mitter and Kavita Mitter; and Speedo Philippines president Chandru Wadhwani and VP for merchandising Sally Wadhwani.

Speedo International Limited regional business development director Olivier Godbille welcomed us!

Ipanema's new line

Brazil's world-renowned flip-flop brand Ipanema is seeking to raise environmental consciousness by launching its latest line, the Seeds Collection, designed by Brazilian fashion icon and Forbes Magazine's "World's Top Earning Model," Gisele Bündchen. It's the supermodel's third exclusively designed line for Ipanema.



ALL SET to surf in trendy sportswear



HARIBON Foundation's Yasmin Ponce, Jojo Garcia, Belinda de la Paz and Lilian de la Vega



ELRO Commercial and Industrial Corp. managing director Fabio Elizalde

"The theme of the collection changes every year with the different aspects of nature being projected. This year we welcome the new Ipanema GB Seeds line which supports reforestation," explained good-looking Fabio Elizalde, managing director of Elro Commercial and Industrial Corp., exclusive distributor of Ipanema.

Ipanema teams up with Haribon Foundation in the environmental awareness campaign Road to 2020. (Road is acronym for Rainforestation Organizations and Advocates.)

The campaign seeks to raise funds via the Walk the Green Mile Walkathon for the preservation of our rainforests.

It's time we realized our dream of a more lush Philippines by joining the Walk the Green Mile walkathon on March 21 at the parking lot near Le Souffle, The Fort, Bonifacio, Taguig. Registration is 3 p.m., the walkathon at 5 p.m.



THE GENERATION 1-piece Summer line 2009



ENVI-wear Speedo's Performance collection



SPEEDO'S Team Stripe range



ROMANTIC lace top under purple pleated jersey

SUYEN'S OWN INCHES

Whether for work or for fun, former model Suyen Chi's Inches boutique helps today's woman discover her style with its range of clothes and accessories. It has cool and comfortable pieces to kick off your day and accessories to give color to traditional corporate dressing. It also has select pieces for night time. Inches is at Market! Market! and Tiendesitas.



LAYERED orange and yellow ensemble



PLEATED white polo layered with a pink spaghetti strap dress

Sun, sand, sea and boardshorts



BOARDSHORTS HAVE evolved into a hot summer statement for the beach and beyond.

[illegible]

THE PLAID LINE.



WAVE WONDER.

Culinary classes for kids, teens

[illegible]



CHILDREN aged [illegible]

Books on sale

[illegible]

LifeStyle Fashion/Beauty

Culinary classes for kids, teens

Free alternative healing

[illegible]

Creativity seminar

[illegible]

Bridal package

[illegible]

Art writing workshop

[illegible]

Management seminars

[illegible]

Dance-music fest

[illegible]

Cosmo builds homes

[illegible]

Summer bazaar

[illegible]

World Vision celebration

[illegible]

LIFESTYLE Fashion & Beauty

Do-it-yourself summer refreshers



KNOCKOUT!

Ria Francisco-Prieto

SUMMER IS HERE! NOT only do you have to load up on the SPF, you also have to keep cool, as the heat can drive you insane.

Here are some easy DIY summer refreshers:

Cold towels. I like putting at least five wet hand towels inside a zip-lock bag that I then store in the refrigerator. As soon as I get home, I put one on my face. If you feel your face is damp, apply [illegible] first before dabbing your face with the cold washcloth. Not only will it close your pores, it's also very refreshing.

Water spray. Just put water in a spray bottle. Every time you feel your face is sweating, just spritz, then dab off excess water. I know a few people who also squeeze a little lemon juice in [illegible] and scent.

Keep your cool—and your SPF

Fruit shakes. The best and healthiest drink this summer? Fresh fruit shakes or juices. We always have fresh coconut juice at home. Coconuts are abundant, thus very inexpensive. It's also isotonic, replacing fluids and minerals that get lost during physical activities. And it relieves and prevents urinary tract problems; that's why it's good for pregnant women.

Summer shades. Smashbox's new line has eight new blush shades that are paraben- and fragrance-free and packed with vitamins A and E. I was very impressed with the packaging, especially the swivel mirror. My favorite is the double-take lip color in [illegible]. This thick pencil is on one side a lip liner and on the other a lipstick. It is creamy and goes on easy when applied. Here are some of their new products. Take your pick!



EYE SHADOW

BLUSH



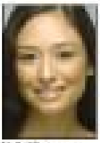
DOUBLE-ENDED Eye Brightener

CONCEALER

Turn heads with this sizzling redhead trend

Red hot summer hair

BRIGHT, BOLD AND BEAUTIFUL sum up the trend for summer—and this time, it applies not only to makeup but to hair color as well. Trying a lighter shade can be a refreshing change for beach weather. And what better color to try than this season's hottest trend, red hair!





HOT HAIR for a hot summer

Green lids and pink lips for Spring 2009

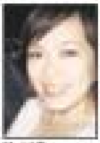


Kissy Salas



Four ways to get pretty—fast

Keep your tips and toes neatly groomed; they're the first things people see

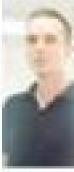


Mariel Chua, Beauty in the Big Apple



Declutter your closet

Keep your face clean



Log in salon time

Get a mani-pedi

Hot and not-so-hot

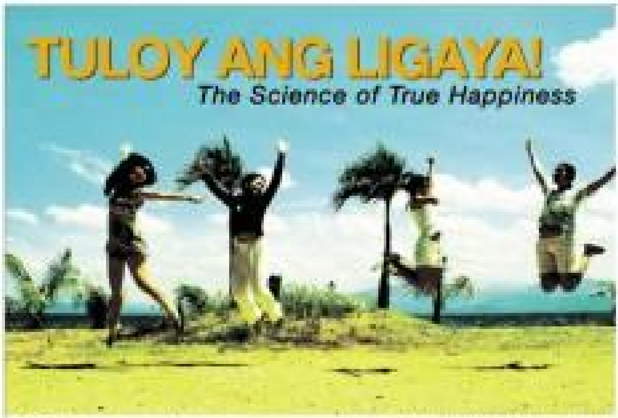




What's hot: Hair extensions
What's not-so-hot: Waiting for your hair to grow out







One look around on any random day, and it's clear that happiness isn't that hard to find. Everyday we see people smiling and high-fiving over something – a birthday, bonus, a new pair of shoes.



And when we have that energy, being happy becomes that much more simple. So simple in fact, that it can be expressed in a single succint truth: more energy, mas happy!





A GOOD powder with an effective oil-control formula evens out skin tone and creates a shine-free finish. Remember that the most vivid eye shadows and blushes fade if you don't invest in an effective face powder. Aside from creating a shine-free finish and an even tone, it sets your makeup—important in hot climates—where skin's natural oils cause makeup to slide off within minutes after application. Careline's Oil Control Face Powder is one great companion for touch-ups throughout the day. Say goodbye to shine with Careline. (Excerpted from YOU Magazine, January-February issue.)

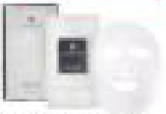
Vanity basket



SISLEY'S Phyto-Touche is a dry, silky, smooth, nourishing and perfumed oil that glides onto the skin in a delicate and sparkling veil.



CHANEL'S Bohemian Fantasy Exclusive Creation includes palettes like Lumie Signée Chanel for the lips, Ombre Essentielle and Ombre d'Eau Delta for the eyes, and Joues Contraste Paradoxe for the face.



ELEMENTS USA'S Oxygiolux re Intense Firming Essence Mask contains Oxygiolucy Complex, recommended for men and women with sun-exposed skin.

Hatching a Brand New Breed of Savings Product

In life everything is unpredictable, thus the saying "Don't count your chickens until they're hatched". But what if there is a GUARANTEE, a PROMISE, a COMMITMENT . . . . Can you start counting?

YES! Breaking free in the Philippine market is the new BPI Maxi-Saver Savings Account, giving you GUARANTEED higher interest rates vs. regular savings, a PROMISE of 1% BONUS interest per annum if no withdrawals are made within the month and a COMMITMENT to give you flexible access to your savings account anytime, anywhere.

BPI Maxi-Saver is a savings account that offers you bigger earnings without having your funds locked up. There are no maturity dates to wait for or pre-termination fees to think about. You also benefit from easy and ready access to your savings account via an ATM card using BPI's 24/7 banking channels. Or, there's the more traditional option of having a passbook to help you monitor your account. What more can you ask for, it's all in BPI Maxi-Saver!

EXPECT MORE: Rewards beyond bigger earnings. An elegant Maxi watch* awaits our new Maxi-Saver clients up to March 31, 2009. To avail of this special gift, simply open a **BPI Maxi-Saver account** in fresh funds (not sourced from another BPI or BPI Family Savings Bank account) with



a minimum amount of P75,000 and get a white Maxi watch. But if you open with at least P150,000 initial deposit you will get 2 Maxi watches (1 white and 1 black).

Maxi-Saver is now available in all branches of BPI and BPI Family Savings Bank.

Maximize your savings and avail of this limited offer, visit your nearest branch and open a BPI Maxi-Saver savings account now.

*Also available if you open a BPI Family Savings account. See flyers for more details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. Series of 2009

LIFESTYLE Fashion&Beauty
Contributing Editors Jennie L. Ilustre, Apples Aberin-Sadhwani and Rita Francisco-Prieto



From NY to Paris, the emphasis is here

LOUIS Vuitton

Shoulder on, fashionista!

JUNK THE DIET! EAT all you want. Skip the gym while you're at it.

[illegible]

SHOULDER, E2

'IT' ACCESSORIES BRAND NOW IN MANILA

Jimmy Choo, the recipient of the 2008 Designer Brand of the Year award from the British Fashion Council, has opened its first store in the Philippines at Greenbelt 5, Ayala Center, Makati. The store showcases an extensive selection of Jimmy Choo shoes, handbags and small leather goods collections. [illegible]



JIMMY Choo sandals




KENZO


LOUIS Vuitton


LOUIS Vuitton


JOHN Galliano


JOHN Galliano

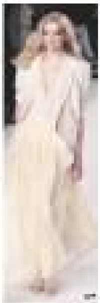
Shoulder on, fashionista!


LOUIS Vuitton









I want candy!

Time to take pleasure in the happy side of fashion

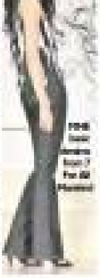






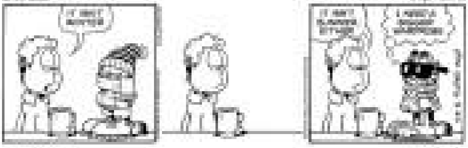


Music and arts mix in iconic jeans launch



GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



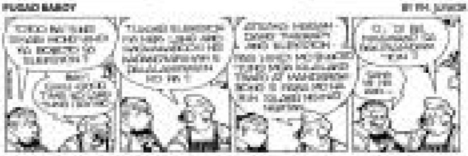
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA



PUGAD BABOY

BY PM. JUNIOR



DICK TRACY

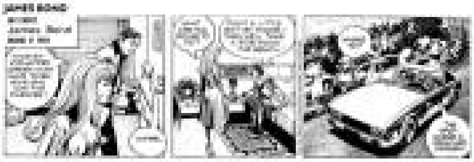


LOVESHOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGSON

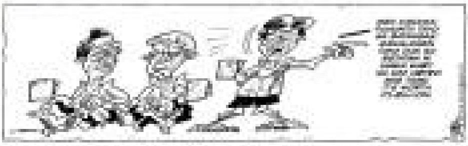


JAMES BOND



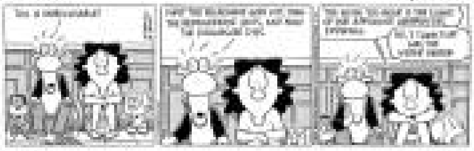
DIVINE COMEDY

BY STEVEN PABALINAS



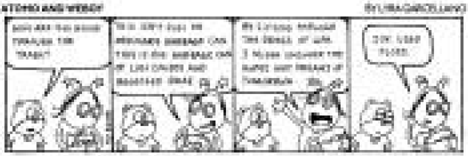
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT



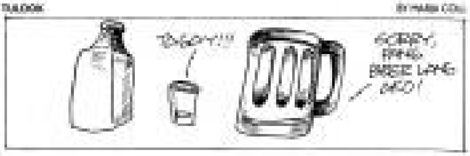
ATOMO AND WEBOT

BY LUISA GARCELLANO



TULDOK

BY HARA COLL



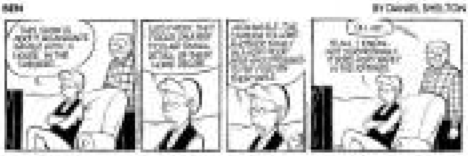
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA

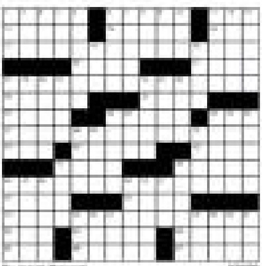


BEN

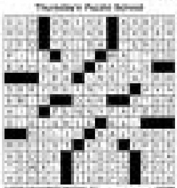
BY DANIEL SHELTON



DAILY CROSSWORD



Thursday's Puzzle Solved



HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

		4		3		9		
	2			6	1		5	
			9			7		
	1	5				4	8	
		2			5			
	5		2	4			6	
		8		1		3		

Difficulty Level ★★★★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

Tips and program at www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

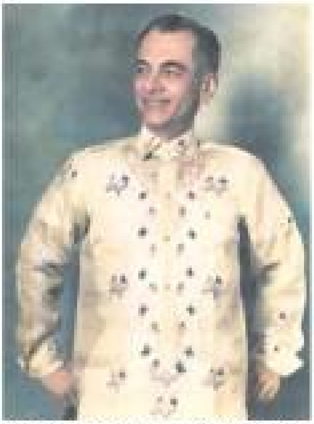
7	1	4	3	5	2	9	6	8
9	6	8	4	1	7	5	2	3
3	5	2	8	6	9	7	1	4
6	9	1	7	3	8	2	4	5
8	4	3	5	2	6	6	7	1
5	2	7	1	9	4	3	8	6
1	3	6	8	7	5	4	9	2
2	8	9	6	4	3	1	5	7
4	7	5	2	8	1	6	3	9



ALL THE WOMEN of this family in Batangas specialize in calado.



THREE generations of Batangas embroiderers led by matriarch Adela Montenegro, 81. With her are her niece, Pita Parreño, and Pita's daughters Beth and Gigi.



COMMONWEALTH President Manuel Luis Quezon (1935-44) in his Commonwealth barong Tagalog. Declaring the barong the Philippine national dress, he modeled the outfit himself in newspapers. The embroidery depicts the crossed flags of the Philippines and the United States.

Book has interesting bits about barong



HOW LONG does it take to make a barong from piña, with full, hand-embroidered pechera?

At least 452 days, or exactly a year, two months and 27 days.

This and almost everything else one would want to know about the barong are in a new coffee-table book, "Garment of Honor, Garment of Identity," launched by RN Barong Filipino, a boutique chain specializing in the garment.

The book is the product of over four years of research by authors Gonzalo Rilo, Mimi Reyes and Adelia Fabro. Foremost photographer Neal Oshima did the images. Layout is by Felix Mago Miguel.

The book drew from the vision of RN Barong Filipino founder Felicidad Nuñez, who aims to promote the Filipino costume as the symbol of what's best of the Philippines.

Producing four yards of piña, the fabric cut a barong requires, takes all of 392 days.

The numbers break down as follows: from planting to harvesting the Red Spanish, 360 days; scraping, drying and knotting the fibers, 15 days; warping, preparing the loom, heddling and weaving, four days each; embroidering, six days.

The book has riveting information. Did you know that... although the barong evolved from the baro, the garment of pre-colonial Filipinos, its popular name, Barong Tagalog, was coined only in the 1920s?

Or that every barong embroidery motif has a name—kinhoe (charts not leaf), pinawi (heart-shaped petal or leaf), tongue-twisting calabi-aba-aba (recurring stitches)?

Overview

The book takes a journey to Batangas, Laguna, Bulacan, Ilocos, Iloilo, Palawan and Aklan, where exquisite embroidery and piña creations take shape.

RN Barong Filipino regards the barong artisans as unsung heroes of Philippine art.

Today's artists are giving barong various renewals, from fresh perspectives, hand-painted ornamentation to exploring pintado (tattooed body) designs.

A buying trip led Nuñez to an unlikely place—a sanatorium in Santa Barbara, Iloilo—where the Women United Through Lace and Embroidery belongs its modest shingle, though nothing is lowly about its principal ware—Belgian lace. Nuñez' serendipitous discovery prompted the design of the subtly elegant Belgian lace-trimmed Barong Filipino line.

Indeed, to know more about the barong is to know more about the Filipino.

The book is available at Fully Booked, Powerbooks, National Book Store and RN Barong Filipino.

For orders, e-mail [illegible], call [illegible], 9294952 or visit www.rnbarongfilipino.com.

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Emmie G. Velarde

INSIDE
■ Scandals and the stars
Viewfinder /F2



DEAN Devlin

Fil-Am producer's new hit

■ TV debut as director for Dean Devlin in Hollywood
/F4

CHEER FACTOR



TONYBOY Cojuangco

Look who's playing in a rock band

By Pocholo Concepcion

At the Cinemas

GLORIETTA 4

GREENBELT 1

GREENBELT 3

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

AYALA CENTER CEBU

MARKET!MARKET!

TRINOMA



EXCLUSIVE

NOW ON ITS 2ND WEEK AT GLORIETTA 4 & TRINOMA CINEMAS

4 BEST PICTURE

"the best American film of the year."

"raw and riveting."

At the Malls

GLORIETTA

GREENBELT

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

AYALA CENTER CEBU

MARKET! MARKET!

TRINOMA

ONSTAGE

Now accepting bookings for March to May 2009



SWOON OVER THE SWEETEST SERENADE

Secondhand Serenade

glorietta · GREENBELT · ALABANG TOWN CENTER · AYALA CENTER CEBU · MARKET! MARKET! · TriNoma

Dora the Tramp? No way!



Kid Fit

Scandals

Vicious night

Memorial concert fo

SHOW TIME

'Three Is Not a Crowd'

Latin jazz at Greenbelt

Look

CD launch

His own band

Big-name fans

GREENHILLS CINEMAS

THEATRE MALL

PROMENADE



Experience Show Business at its Best!

mycinema GREENBELT

GREENBELT



So, for real quality shows, catch the limelight at OnStage Greenbelt!

Onstage GREENBELT

The perfect spot for concerts, stage plays & corporate events. Now accepting bookings for March to May 2009.

GREENBELT



THX Certified Auditoriums

THX

Don't Just See a Movie. Enjoy the best movie experience EVER!

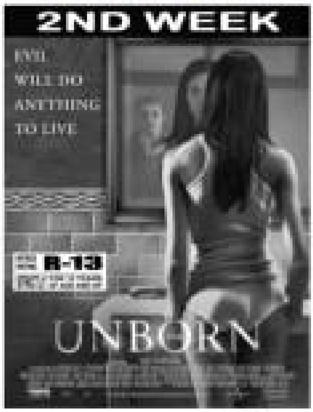
s and the stars



r C. Torre



Exorcising with Gary Oldman





r writer-academician

'Dream Wednesdays'

March 26

March 27

March 28







...who's playing...



LENNY



JUST ASKING





Fil-Am producer debuts as director with hit series

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Ruben V. Nepales



'The action is swift, the patter is clever, the casting is smart'

Sharon goes back to basics

LIVING Stars

Baby girl for Karel



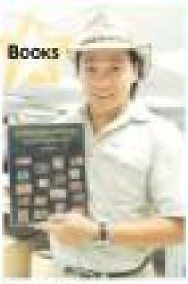




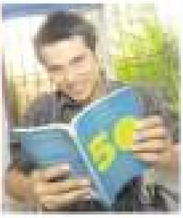
Comedian Candy Pangilinan is a very practical spender / G4



Books



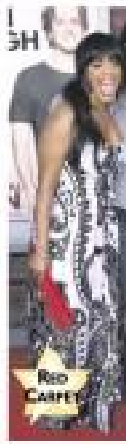
KIM ATIENZA



JAN NIETO

Winery, Winehouse a

'I Love You, preem in LA







...and, uh, what's that smell?

...court, Judge Timothy Workman ordered Winehouse to attend a new hearing at the same court on July 23. She was released on unconditional bail. AP

'Idiot Wind'

LOS ANGELES—Bob Dylan has sung about wind many times—winds of change, the "Idiot Wind," and winds that hit heavy on the borderline.

But some of his neighbors on Tuesday sang a new tune about what is blowin' in the wind from his Malibu toilet.

RUSHES SPECIAL

A family living near the 67-year-old folk and rock icon's home in the posh California beachside community of Malibu have complained to city officials about an outdoor portable toilet, which is apparently used by guards on Dylan's compound.

Cindy and David Ettensinger say the toilet emits fumes from waste treatment chemicals, and that the smell carried by breezes from the Pacific Ocean makes their family feel ill. "It's a scandal. 'Mr Civil Rights' is killing our civil rights," David Ettensinger told the Los Angeles Times.

A helicopter from a local television station hovered over Dylan's property this week, capturing video of the offending toilet.

But Malibu Mayor Andy Stern said other neighbors report smelling nothing from the toilet, and that he has left the matter to the enforcers of the city's code on objectionable odors.

"I really have not involved myself in Bob Dylan's toilet, and by the way I haven't involved myself in anyone else's toilet in Malibu," Stern told Reuters.

A spokesman for Dylan did not return calls. Reuters



AMY Winehouse pleads innocent to assaulting a fan last year. AP FOTO

'...Man'
...a, March 17



NBCT Hutt and Sarah Silverman



JAMIE Pressly









A practical spender

By Marinel R. Cruz
Photo by Jim Quion Fonsaler

COMEDIAN CANDY Pangilinan says she's a wise and practical spender.

"I invest my hard-earned money in jewelry, which will appreciate in value. I don't spend as much on branded shoes and bags," Candy tells Lower Beam.

The Pangilinans hail from Bulacan, where some 3,000 jewel manufacturers are listed.

"Our family has been in this business for years now," she explains. "We make jewelry and then sell them to dealers. This year, we opened our own shop, Hollister, at the Trinoma Mall. My sister runs it."

During this visit to her Quezon City home, Candy shows us some of her favorite rings, necklaces and bracelets.



A pair of cute flip-flops from Hawaii

Jewelry

I keep most of them in a vault. I don't need to wear them at work all the time. The necklace that my sister Mabon gave me is specially valuable. She bought it in Monaco, Rome. When it comes to rings, I go big. I like pieces with unique designs.

Timepieces

This Franck Muller watch was a Christmas gift from my parents three years ago ... My favorite piece is from G-Shock, a chic watch that's really big. It's sturdy and perfect when I play with my son Quentin.

Expensive watches are good investments, too. The G-Shock has been with me for six years, my Rolex, for nine years and the Cartier, for 12 years.

Hats

They remind me of the characters I've played in the past. I used this red velvet hat in the movie "Na Ba, New Year!" Derek Ramsay (Chestnut) made me buy it during a trip to the United States.

I had to buy this cowboy hat for a show abroad because I couldn't fix my hair.

I have all kinds of hats, including one worn by security guards.

Cosmetics

I use brands like Mac, Revlon and Maybelline for my make-up. The vintage pink makeup bag is another item I got from my mom's closet.

Bags

My favorites are these gold sequined shoulder bag and Rebecca's Secret hot pink PVC. They serve as accessories. You don't have to dress up when you're using them.

I stopped collecting bags when I got obsessed with gadgets. But I used to be addicted to Ralph Lauren pieces. This was before Louis Vuitton became extremely popular. I have all the styles—clutch, shoulder bag, backpack, body bag, sling bag.

Shawls and neckties

My mom's friends gifted me with a lot of neckties when they heard that I was collecting. I use it for some of my shorts.

My sister gave me the velvet scarf when she arrived from a trip to Europe. I also got a scarf from my producer Tony Mabesa. He said he bought it during an Asian tour. I love this velvet headed simply because it's by Kenneth Cole—a gift from another friend.

DVDs

I first watched "Saturday Night Live," starring Billy Crystal, during a flight home. It's about a has-been comedian whose jokes people already find corny.

"I'm the One that I Want," featuring Margaret Cho, is very funny. She does nothing but make fun of herself.

Lewis Black's "Black on Broadway" is very inspiring. I also get inspiration from Woody Allen films. I order my DVDs online.

Accessories

I made accessories when I was pregnant with Quentin. Ryan and Pong bought all the stuff I made. I stopped production when he was born.

My favorite pair of sunglasses is the Tiffany-blue Oakley that my cousin gave me. He works for Oakley and he designed it himself. A lot of people notice me when I wear it.

I put all my belts in zip-lock containers. That way, it's easier to stuff them in my travel bag. I collect belts, too. Stylish belts can make a big difference for an outfit.

Footwear

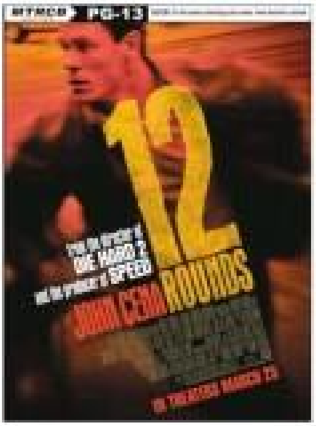
I collect flip-flops. My favorites are those I got in Hawaii. I don't use them. They're just so cute to look at.

For me, wedges are the most comfortable footwear. There's a funny story about this white pair from Oxford. I bought it from a really expensive boutique. When I returned to the shop the following day, it was already on sale—50 percent off. Nakakainis.

I wear a lot of high heels because of my character Madam Catalina in "Ruby La Ima." I prefer brands like Anne Klein, Aldo and S&G. Soft cushions are my thing.

I like loafers and ballet pumps, too. All women should also have a pair of these high heels. That's a staple in every wardrobe.

E-mail: mcruz@inquirer.com.ph





OUT OF THE CLOSET

HATS are perfect for bad-hair days, says the comedian.



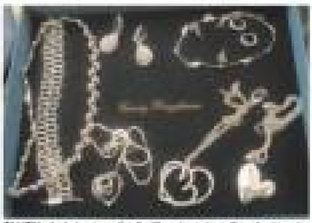
WEDGES and loafers are the most comfy for Candy.



WATCHES, like jewelry, are good investments. Her oldest piece is a 12-year-old Cartier.



FOLDING ballet flats are ideal for traveling, she says.



CANDY, who belongs to a family of jewelry makers, likes simple and versatile pieces.



HER fave eyewear is the Tiffany-blue Oakley pair (first row, right) that her cousin designed for the sports brand.